

State Profile: Colorado

nccic

The Office of Child Care's National Child Care Information and Technical Assistance Center

Program Funding and Participation

Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)¹

Funding	
CCDF Expenditure:	\$115,927,039
Federal Expenditure:	\$83,066,772
State Expenditure:	\$32,860,267
Participation	
Average Monthly Number of Children Served:	17,700
Average Monthly Number of Families Served:	10,400

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)²

Funding	
TANF – Total Child Care Expenditure:	30,583,464
TANF – Direct Expenditure on Child Care:	\$658,188
TANF – Transfer to CCDF:	\$29,925,276

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)⁵

Funding	
CACFP Funding:	\$19,818,290
Participation	
Number of participating family child care homes:	1,706
Number of participating child care centers:	680
Average daily participation of children in family child care homes:	6,249
Average daily participation of children in child care centers:	27,827

Child Care Tax Credits⁶

Funding	
Federal Total Amount Claimed:	\$53,570,000
Federal Number of Claims:	104,304
State Tax Credit Available:	Yes
State Credit Refundable:	Yes

Head Start³

Funding	
Head Start State Allocation:	\$70,658,907
Participation	
Number of Children Participating in Head Start:	9,820

State-Funded Prekindergarten⁴

Funding	
State Expenditure:	\$41,321,362
Participation	
Enrollment (3 and 4 year olds):	18,225

CCDF Policies

CCDF State Profile	
FY 2010–2011 CCDF State Profiles	

Quality

Licensing Process⁷

Child Care Facilities	Number	Capacity
Child Care Centers	3,070	293,825
Small Family Child Care Homes	3,576	21,206
Large/Group Family Child Care Homes	290	3,192
Other Licensed Facilities:	318	72,280
Total:	7,254	390,503

Licensing Agency Staff	
Number of Licensing Line Staff	47
Estimated Caseloads	154:1

Types of Routine Compliance Inspections Conducted	Announced	Unannounced
Child Care Centers	No	Yes
Small Family Child Care Homes	No	Yes
Large/Group Family Child Care Homes	No	Yes

Frequency of Inspections	
Child Care Centers	Risk-based schedule varying between once a month to once every 3 years; on average, once every 2 years
Small Family Child Care Homes	Risk-based schedule varying between once a month to once every 3 years; on average, once every 2 years
Large/Group Family Child Care Homes	Risk-based schedule varying between once a month to once every 3 years; on average, once every 2 years

Licensing State Profile
Colorado Licensing Profile

Program Quality⁸

Program Standards	
State has program standards that are at least one level above licensing	Yes
Standards are part of an implemented quality rating and improvement system (QRIS)	Yes
Standards are part of a QRIS pilot or QRIS in development	No
Standards are part of another statewide quality improvement initiative	No

Program Supports	
State provides technical assistance/consultation to help programs improve quality	Yes
TA is part of a QRIS	Yes
State has an accreditation facilitation project	Yes
State has health consultants	Yes
State has infant/toddler specialists	Yes
State has school-age care specialists	No
State has inclusion specialists	Yes
State has mental health specialists	No
State has support for family, friend, and neighbor caregivers	No

Quality Assurance	
State is using environment rating scales to measure quality (ECERS, FCCRS, SACERS, ITERS)	Yes
State is using the Program Administration Scale or Business Administration Scale (PAS/BAS)	No
State is using other assessment tools, i.e., Early Learning and Literacy Classroom Observation (ELLCO) or Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)	Yes
Program assessments are part of a QRIS	Yes

Financial Incentives	
State has enhanced rates/tiered reimbursement tied to quality	Yes
State has grants/bonuses/awards to help meet licensing requirements	Yes
State has grants/bonuses/awards for working toward levels of quality	Yes
State has grants/bonuses/awards for achieving levels of quality	No
Financial incentives are part of a QRIS	Yes

Consumer Engagement	
State has a Web site for parents with information about quality	Yes
State publishes quality ratings on the Internet or in print	Yes
State publishes information about licensing compliance on the Internet	Yes
State conducts consumer engagement campaign with a focus on quality	No

Quality Rating and Improvement System	
Qualistar Rating System	

Professional Development Systems⁹

Core Knowledge/Competencies	
State has defined core/knowledge competencies for practitioners	Yes

Qualifications, Credentials, Pathways	
State has a career lattice/ladder	Yes
State has a practitioner registry	No
State has credentials (e.g., director, early childhood, school-age, infant/toddler, etc.)	Yes

Quality Assurance	
State has a trainer approval system	Yes
State has a training approval system	Yes

Access and Outreach	
State has mentoring/coaching to help practitioners improve their skills	Yes
State has career advising	No
State has a database or calendar of training opportunities on the Internet	Yes

Funding for Practitioners	
State has scholarships, including TEACH Early Childhood® Project	Yes
State has wage supplements/incentive bonuses	No

Professional Development System

[Colorado Office of Professional Development](#)

Early Learning Guidelines¹⁰

Age Group		Early Learning Guidelines
Birth to 3 years	No	
3 to 5 years	Yes	Building Blocks to Colorado's Content Standards
Birth to 5 years	No	

Demographics

Children and Families¹¹

Population Statistics	
Total population:	5,024,748
Number of children under 5:	364,714
Total number of children under 18:	1,228,089
Children under 5 as a percent of population:	7.26%
Children under 18 as a percent of population:	24.44%

Poverty Rate Estimates	
Children under 5 in poverty:	21.46%
Children under 18 in poverty:	17.37%

Children Living in Working Families	
Percent of children under 6 living with working parents:	22.12%
Percent of children ages 6-17 living with working parents:	46.33%

Workforce¹²

Workforce Statistics	
Number of paid employees in child care establishments	13,853
Number of self-employed child care providers	9,435
Average annual wage for child care workers	\$22,890

State Contacts Directories

CCDF Lead Agencies
Licensing Agencies
Professional Development Contacts
Child Care Resource and Referral Contacts
Other State Contacts

Sources

¹U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Child Care Bureau. (2008, September). *FFY 2008 Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) state expenditures*.

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²U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Family Assistance. (n.d.). *Fiscal year 2009 TANF financial data*. www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofs/data/2009/tanf_2009.html

³U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Head Start. (2010, February). *Head Start program fact sheet*. www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ohs/about/fy2010.html

⁴National Institute for Early Education Research. (2009). *The 2009 state of preschool yearbook*. <http://nieer.org/yearbook/>

⁵Food Research and Action Center. (November 2008). *State of the States: 2008: FRAC's Profile of Food & Nutrition Programs Across the Nation Fiscal Year 2007*. www.frac.org/pdf/SOS_2008_withcover_nov08.pdf

⁶Internal Revenue Service. (2006, July). *Tax Year 2008: Historical Table 2: (SOI Bulletin) Individual income and tax data, by state and size of adjusted gross income*. www.irs.gov/taxstats/article/0,,id=171535,00.html

National Women's Law Center. (2006). *Making Care Less Taxing: Improving State Child and Dependent Care Tax Credits*. www.nwlc.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/MakingCareLessTaxing2006.pdf

National Women's Law Center. (2008). *2008 Supplement to Making Care Less Taxing*. www.nwlc.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/2008SuppMCLTAppendixA.pdf

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⁷NCCIC and National Association for Regulatory Administration (2010). *The 2008 Child Care Licensing Study*. www.naralicensing.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=205

⁸Information collected by NCCIC from State Web sites and documents. Additional information about quality rating and improvement systems is available at <http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/topics/topic/index.cfm?topicId=44>.

⁹Information collected by NCCIC from State Web sites and documents. Additional information about State professional development systems is available at <http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/topics/topic/index.cfm?topicId=49>.

¹⁰Information collected by NCCIC from State Web sites, documents, and FY2010-2011 CCDF Plans. Additional information about early learning guidelines is available at <http://nccic.acf.hhs.gov/topics/topic/index.cfm?topicId=61>.

¹¹U.S. Census Bureau. (n.d.). *In American Community Survey, 2008.*

http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?_program=ACS&_submenuid=datasets_2&_lang=en&_ts=

U.S. Census Bureau. (n.d.). *In American Community Survey, 2009.*

http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetTableListServlet?_ds_name=ACS_2009_1YR_G00&_type=table&_program=ACS&_lang=en&_ts=305136657328

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Community Services. (2009, March). *Estimated State median income for a four-person family, by State, Federal Fiscal Year 2010.* [www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/liheap/guidance/information memoranda/im09-05.html](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/liheap/guidance/information_memoranda/im09-05.html)

¹² U.S. Census Bureau. (n.d.). 2008 County Business Patterns. www.census.gov/econ/cbp/index.html

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